

Appln No. 10/722,204
Preliminary Amdt date December 29, 2004

REMARKS

I. Amendments to the Claims

Claims 17-32 are in the present application, of which claims 17, 31 and 32 are independent. Claims 1-16 have been canceled herein without prejudice. Applicant respectfully requests that this amendment be entered prior to any substantive examination on the merits.

II. Amendments to the Specification - Substitute Specification

The specification has been amended throughout to change from "fiber channel" to "optical fiber", from "waveguide channels" to "waveguides", and from "input channels" to "input waveguides". No new matter has been introduced, as those skilled in the art would have understood, for example, the "fiber channel" to mean "optical fiber", "waveguide channels" to mean "waveguides" and "input channels" to mean "input waveguides" within the context of the application at the time of filing the application. Due to the number of changes, applicant has prepared a substitute specification, a clean copy and a redlined copy of which are attached hereto.

III. Amendment to the Abstract

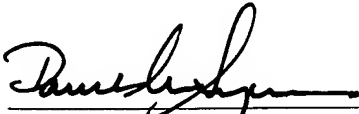
An amendment has been made to the abstract page to delete the title of the application, and to change from "fiber channel" to "optical fiber".

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If there are any issues that can be addressed over the telephone, the Examiner is invited to call applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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505/332-5000

JEJ/vdw

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